

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 7 and 15 include allowable subject matter. Claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Yonemoto (U.S. Patent No. 6,298,239). The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Yonemoto states that when a broadcast message that allows/requires a response is transmitted to a plurality of reception apparatuses, the replies may be transmitted at about the same time, which may result in a traffic jam. See Yonemoto, col.1, ll. 53-61. Yonemoto therefore describes determining a random delay between reception of the broadcast information and the time that the user is notified of the reception. Once the user is notified of reception of the information, the user may respond at any subsequent time. See Yonemoto, col. 11, line 9 – col. 12, line 36.

However, Yonemoto does not describe or suggest determining timing associated with a first channel, as set forth in independent claims 1 and 10. To the contrary, Yonemoto teaches that the random delay is simply determined in response to receiving the broadcast signal. Yonemoto also fails to teach or suggest receiving a grant signal permitting transmission of information over a second channel, as set forth in independent claims 1 and 10. As discussed above, the user is free to transmit data at any time after being notified that information has been received. Thus, Yonemoto also fails to teach or suggest transmitting information over the second channel at a time related to the timing of the first channel and a time at which the grant signal is received, as set forth in independent claims 1 and 10.

For at least the aforementioned reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is not anticipated by Yonemoto and request that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1-6, 8-14, and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) be withdrawn.

For the aforementioned reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4052 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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Mark W. Sincell, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 52,226
Williams Morgan & Amerson, P.C.
10333 Richmond Avenue, Suite 1100
Houston, TX 77042
(713) 934-7000
(713) 934-7011 (Fax)

AGENT FOR APPLICANTS